

Exodus 29:10-46 - Thursday, April 23rd, 2009

- Tonight we're going to be looking at some gnarly, bloody, and gory stuff, and for good reason, as I hope we'll be able to soon see.
- There's a "why" behind the "what" that I believe the Lord wants us to know about in the chapter that's before us this evening.
- I suggest to you that it's the same for them then as it is for us now, God wants us to understand the seriousness, and ugliness, of sin!

10 "You shall also have the bull brought before the tabernacle of meeting, and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands on the head of the bull.11 Then you shall kill the bull before the LORD, by the door of the tabernacle of meeting.12 You shall take some of the blood of the bull and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger, and pour all the blood beside the base of the altar.13 And you shall take all the fat that covers the entrails, the fatty lobe attached to the liver, and the two kidneys and the fat that is on them, and burn them on the altar.14 But the flesh of the bull, with its skin and its offal, you shall burn with fire outside the camp. It is a sin offering.

- This is quite graphic in its detail, but there's good reason for the blood and the gore. There can be no priestly service without sacrifice.
- Here, they would put their hands on the head of the bull and transfer their sin to the bull which would become a substitutionary sacrifice.
- This bloody ceremony was completed when they took the body of the sacrifice outside the city and had it burned as a sin offering.

15 "You shall also take one ram, and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands on the head of the ram;16 and you shall kill the ram, and you shall take its blood and sprinkle it all around on the altar.17 Then you shall cut the ram in pieces, wash its entrails and its legs, and put them with its pieces and with its head.18 And you shall burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the LORD; it is a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the LORD.

- The bull was for the sin offering, and this ram was for the burnt offering, then, as we'll see next, the other ram was a peace offering.
- So, there were a total of three offerings in this ceremony of consecration for the priests in their service to God. Why three offerings?
- The sin offering transferred the sin, the burnt offering paid for the transferred sin, and the peace offering signified our peace with God.

- There's one other important detail in this ceremony that we don't want to miss. Notice the common denominator in all the offerings.
- The priest would have to make contact with and lay their hands on the sacrifice. In other words, they had to identify themselves with it.
- So too is this true for me and you, we have to make contact with and identify ourselves with Him Who was our sacrifice.

19 "You shall also take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands on the head of the ram.20 Then you shall kill the ram, and take some of its blood and put it on the tip of the right ear of Aaron and on the tip of the right ear of his sons, on the thumb of their right hand and on the big toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood all around on the altar.21 And you shall take some of the blood that is on the altar, and some of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it on Aaron and on his garments, on his sons and on the garments of his sons with him; and he and his garments shall be hallowed, and his sons and his sons' garments with him.

- There is so much packed into this third offering with the second ram. We'll try to unpack as much as we can because of how it applies.
- First, notice how the blood of this sacrificed ram was applied to their right ear, right thumb, and right big toe then sprinkled on the altar.
- One thought is that it was a symbol of consecration to God as it relates to what we hear/ear, do/hand, and where we go/feet.

- In other words, what we listen to with our ears, do with our hands, and the places we walk into with our feet are set apart for Him.
- It's that Sunday school song that we sing; "be careful little ears what you hear ...hands what you do ...feet where you go."
- There's something else here that I believe is woven into this particular part of the consecration ceremony; "the Gospel of Jesus Christ!"

THE GOOD NEWS

EAR	MOUNT SINAI	I hear (ear) the voice of the God and see my sin and how it separates me from God.
HAND	THE TABERNACLE	I see the finished work (hand) on the cross and how it reconciles me to God.
FEET	THE ATONEMENT	I walk (feet) past the curtain into His presence with God and am at-one-ment with Him.

- That's not all! Sorry if this sounds like an infomercial but there's even more here. I told you that there was a lot packed into this offering.
- In addition to being set apart in our sanctification, after hearing the good news of our salvation, there's also a progressive revelation.

1. LISTEN TO THE LORD - EAR

19 "Take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head. 20 Slaughter it, take some of its blood and put it on the lobes of the right ears of Aaron and his sons, on the thumbs of their right hands, and on the big toes of their right feet. Then sprinkle blood against the altar on all sides.

 Romans 10:14a How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?

2. WORK OF THE LORD - HAND

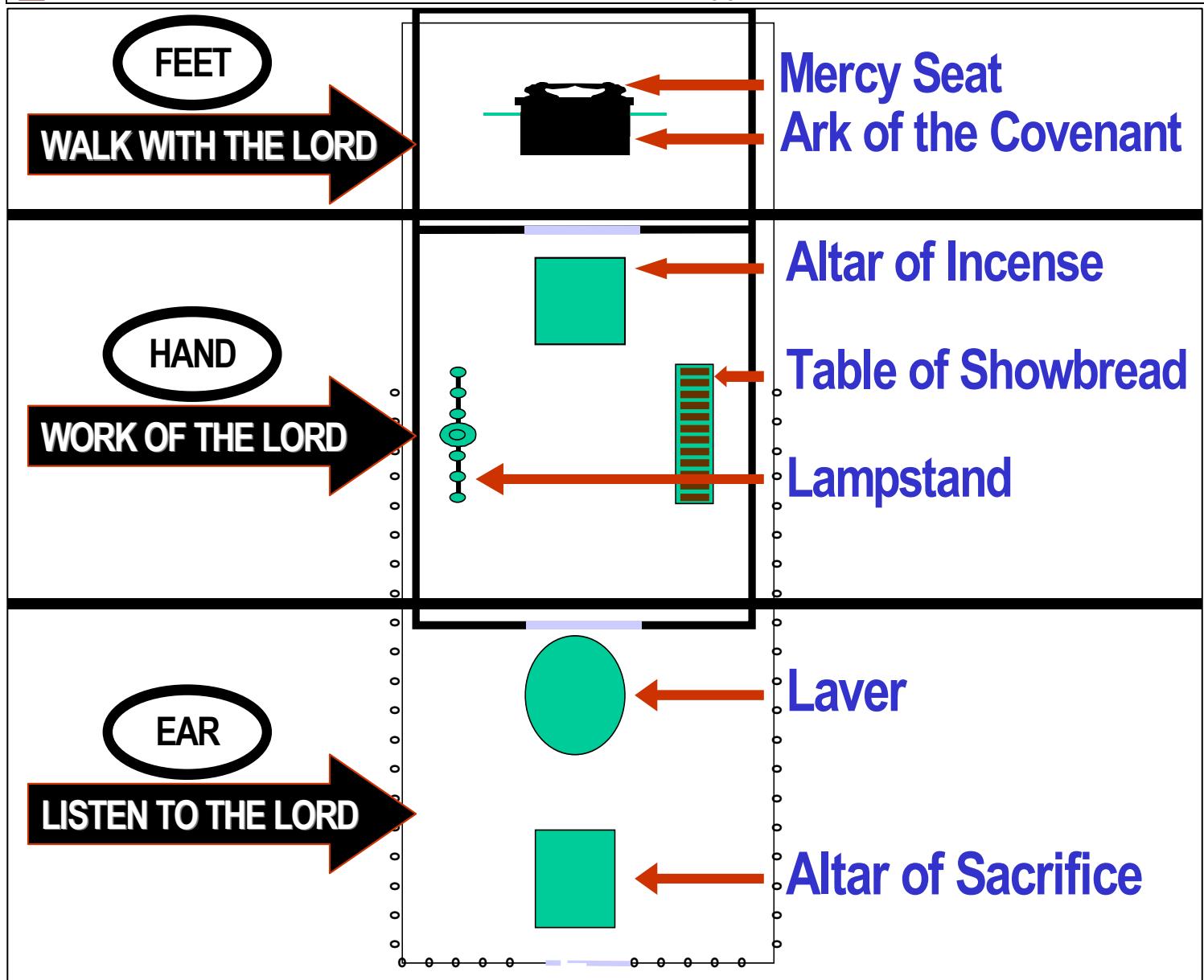
19 "Take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head. 20 Slaughter it, take some of its blood and put it on the lobes of the right ears of Aaron and his sons, on the thumbs of their right hands, and on the big toes of their right feet. Then sprinkle blood against the altar on all sides.

 Romans 10:14b-15a And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent?

3. WALK WITH THE LORD - FEET

19 "Take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head. 20 Slaughter it, take some of its blood and put it on the lobes of the right ears of Aaron and his sons, on the thumbs of their right hands, and on the big toes of their right feet. Then sprinkle blood against the altar on all sides.

 Romans 10:15b As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"



22 "Also you shall take the fat of the ram, the fat tail, the fat that covers the entrails, the fatty lobe attached to the liver, the two kidneys and the fat on them, the right thigh (for it is a ram of consecration), 23 one loaf of bread, one cake made with oil, and one wafer from the basket of the unleavened bread that is before the LORD; 24 and you shall put all these in the hands of Aaron and in the hands of his sons, and you shall wave them as a wave offering before the LORD. 25 You shall receive them back from their hands and burn them on the altar as a burnt offering, as a sweet aroma before the LORD. It is an offering made by fire to the LORD. 26 "Then you shall take the breast of the ram of Aaron's consecration and wave it as a wave offering before the LORD; and it shall be your portion. 27 And from the ram of the consecration you shall consecrate the breast of the wave offering which is waved, and the thigh of the heave offering which is raised, of that which is for Aaron and of that which is for his sons. 28 It shall be from the children of Israel for Aaron and his sons by a statute forever. For it is a heave offering; it shall be a heave offering from the children of Israel from the sacrifices of their peace offerings, that is, their heave offering to the LORD.

- This is known as the wave offering. You see this ceremony today at sporting events when fans, by way of ritual, do this wave thing ☺.
- What's interesting about the wave offering is that the priests would actually get to eat the best and tastiest part of the roasted meat.
- In addition to this, it was eaten before the Lord, and in fellowship with the Lord, as part of the ceremony now with the peace of the Lord.

- It's also interesting to note that this offering was waved in the shape of a cross which again points to the finished work on the cross.
- It was and is because of the finished work on the cross that we now have peace and fellowship with the Lord and the peace of the Lord.

29 "And the holy garments of Aaron shall be his sons' after him, to be anointed in them and to be consecrated in them.30 That son who becomes priest in his place shall put them on for seven days, when he enters the tabernacle of meeting to minister in the holy place.

- Notice that Aaron's holy garments were to be passed onto his sons after him so that they would be anointed and consecrated as well.
- This is a beautiful picture of how we as parents with our children, raise them in the fear and admonition of the Lord, (Ephesians 6:4).
- Also, this goes on for a whole week, there in the temple. In other words, this was a process that took time for its completion, ("7").

31 "And you shall take the ram of the consecration and boil its flesh in the holy place.32 Then Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram, and the bread that is in the basket, by the door of the tabernacle of meeting.33 They shall eat those things with which the atonement was made, to consecrate and to sanctify them; but an outsider shall not eat them, because they are holy.34 And if any of the flesh of the consecration offerings, or of the bread, remains until the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire. It shall not be eaten, because it is holy. 35 "Thus you shall do to Aaron and his sons, according to all that I have commanded you. seven days you shall consecrate them.36 And you shall offer a bull every day as a sin offering for atonement. You shall cleanse the altar when you make atonement for it, and you shall anoint it to sanctify it.37 seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and sanctify it. And the altar shall be most holy. Whatever touches the altar must be holy.

- You can't help but notice that the Lord wants to break bread with and be in fellowship with His people. He wants a relationship with us!
- He doesn't want us to eat and run. The priests stayed in the Tabernacle with the Lord for an entire week as they supped with Him.
- In other words, this was daily. They had their "daily bread" from the Lord, because of the Lord and in a relationship with the Lord.

38 "Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs of the first year, day by day continually.39 one lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight.40 With the one lamb shall be one-tenth of an ephah of flour mixed with one-fourth of a hin of pressed oil, and one-fourth of a hin of wine as a drink offering.41 And the other lamb you shall offer at twilight; and you shall offer with it the grain offering and the drink offering, as in the morning, for a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the LORD.42 This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet you to speak with you.43 And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by My glory.44 So I will consecrate the tabernacle of meeting and the altar. I will also consecrate both Aaron and his sons to minister to Me as priests.45 I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God.46 And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, who brought them up out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them. I am the LORD their God.

- Now we go from ever day for a week, to every day all year long, "continually." Also, a lamb was sacrificed both at day and at night.
- Perhaps the Lord wants to have a morning and evening reminder for them, that He would become their lamb sacrificed once and for all.